realistic and result-oriented and will be able to make a marked impact on the population problem in the country.

Identification of railway projects for participation by the Private Sector Companies

1. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified Railway Projects for participation by Private Sector Companies; and

(b) if so, what are the details of these projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Arms from the border of Rajasthan

2. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of arms and ammunition hither to from Punjab border was shifted to Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that alongwith arms and ammunition, consignment of gold and silver are also being smuggled from these two border districts of Rajasthan; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) It is true that attempts to smuggle arms, ammunition, gold and silver from Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan are being made.

(c) Boder forces have been strengthened both in force, and in equipment and weaponary. Vigil has been increase. Border fencing and lighting is being done in specified areas.

Non-availability of essential medicines in G. B. Pant Hospital, Delhi

3. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of essential medicines needed for the treatment of cardiac, gastro, neuroc cases are not available at present in G.B. Pant Hospital, Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Hospital Budget for the purchases of these essential medicines has been slashed down considerably;

(c) whether Government have inquired into the reasons for state of affairs; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the interest of poor patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir. However, there were occasions when certain medicines were out of stock which were procured on emergent basis from Super Bazar and approved agencies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Dispute between Governments of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh on Forest Land

4. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a dispute between the Governments

of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh on the 40-acre forest land near Koma Khan on the Orissa—Madhya Pradesh border;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the land on which Government of Orissa stakes its claim is now in the possession of Madhya Pradesh Government; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to solve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs have already issued suitable instructions dated 25th March, 1991 for settlement of dispute between the Governments of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh.

Setting up of an Elephant Sanctuary in Phulabani, Orissa

5. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need to set up an elephant sanctuary in Phulabani district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Elephant Sanctuary is likely to be set up during the current financial year; and

(d) what alternative steps are proposed to be taken for the proper preservation of elephants in Phulabani district of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Government of India had constituted a Task Force to work out a specific plan of action for conservation of elephants in the country. In its report, titled PROJECT ELEPHANT, the Task Force has observed that the goals of elephants' conservation cannot be achieved by creating few islands of wildlife protected areas. The conservation of the entire habitat range and adjustment between the needs of local people and wildlife conservation is crucial. It has been recommended in the report that conservation efforts have to be concentrated on the larger populations of elephants utilising contiguous areas. The report has listed priority areas to be covered, under the Project-'Phulabani' does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the PROJECT ELEPHANT.

(d) The elephant population all over the country, including Phulabani, enjoys total protection under the WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) Act, 1972. The internal as well as external trade in ivory are also banned.

Maternal/Infant Mortality Rate

6. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of States which have maximum maternal mortality rate/infant mortality rate in the country;

(b) what are the details of districts in Uttar Pradesh which have maximum maternal mortality rate/infant mortality rate; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c) Registrar General of India carry out a Sample Registration System (SRS) to provide estimates of various aspects of Vital Statistics every year, including estimates of birth rate and infant mortality rate. Estimates of maternal mortality rate are not provided through this system

According to the Provisional results available from SRS for 1990, State of